

Lowering the defined speed of “broadband” from 25Mbps/3Mbps to 10Mbps/1Mbps is backsliding into the past and will harm the general public via lack of bandwidth adequate for many of today’s core Internet data functions. The only beneficiaries of lowering the standards are ISP who do not wish to invest in updating their Internet infrastructure. Many Americans do not have access to broadband Internet services and lowering the speed definitions will allow ISPs to deploy or maintain marginal Internet access speeds that are not adequate in today’s economy. Additionally, mobile broadband is NOT a substitute for home broadband internet service. Almost every mobile Internet provider has a low data cap or speed throttle threshold that disqualifies mobile broadband from being a viable option for real home use. An entire billing cycle worth of mobile data can be used in a matter of a few hours simply by watching online video. The mobile Internet infrastructure in its current state cannot replace home Internet service because the current spectrum and hardware does not have the capacity to serve the large amount of users with the same amount of throughput as home Internet can. Each frequency of mobile spectrum can only support so much bandwidth from each tower. In areas with high population density, users’ broadband speeds are throttled to accommodate the high number of simultaneous data streams. This limits the viability of consistent high speed Internet from mobile sources. Home-based Internet such as cable and FiOS do not suffer from this limitation.